KELLY FIELD
TEXAS

Wednesday night
May 6, 1942
Kelly—

Hiya, folks,—

So,—you've been galavanting around the country wasting Mr. Ickes gasoline and your tires, eh?—Haven't you heard about a rubber shortage?—Glad you got to go & see Brother & Melba, tho.—Have they got as nice a place as they write about? It must seem nice for them to get back into "Gods country", eh, Ma?

Oh, yes,—Ma,—I enjoyed your birthday last night! Your box arrived yesterday and was still fairly fresh!—Of course—the cake was a little dried out, but what's a little thing like that to a fellow in the Army.—It was from home wasn't it? All of it was greatly appreciated; the napkins, nuts, cake, and even the candle!

Had a pretty nice day Sunday—Went to the zoo—of all places!—They have a pretty nice one here and fairly large, too.—It's not like Washington's. Most of the animals have no cages around them—They are all out in the open, in sorta rocky enclosures, and instead of bars between the animals & people—they have a wide, deep, trench. One that the animals can't get over, so in reality,—there's nothing

between you and them. - Even the monkeys + lions! -
Quite an effect! -

Also went to see Horace Heidt who's playing at one of the theaters in town. It was a real treat seeing something like that after seeing so many post movies. - By the way - Horace and his band came out to Kelly this morning. They put on about the same act as at the movies but it was still very enjoyable - and needless to say - a very welcome break in our routine. - He and his band all seemed sincere in wanting to truly entertain us and don't think we didn't appreciate it. - Frankie Carl was there and did his stuff for us, too. - The other musicians, of course, had their instruments but there was no piano for Frankie Carl. - About half way thru the program they brought one in! I think they got it from the post commandant's home! - That didn't bother Frankie, - he jumped right in and played as if he had been using it all the time. Take it from me, - his records don't do his justice - you have to see his fingers fly to really appre~~x~~ciate him! -

Been real busy all week. - Drill, calisthenics + classes. - We ~~ha~~ even had a class last night and today an exam in math. The math was simple, and barring any dumb mistake, I should have gotten a cold hundred on it, I hope!! - I'll make the marks while I can and maybe that will make up for it when I get in deep water! Tomorrow we have another exam - but don't know that I'll make a hundred on that one! - This one is a lecture course and nothing to refer to except notes!

Sorry Matilda needs so much done to her - I can't understand about her brakes & lights. - I can see your point in not taking her to Wilmores cause the other place is much more convenient. - but also much more expensive, too. - What do you mean he said something about "silver" beams - you're sure it wasn't "sealed beams"? - About the oil - in case you've forgotten - use 30 oil during the summer and remember to get the transmission checked ever so often - once a month, I guess cause it has a tendancy to leak from there to the rear end. - The rear end almost never takes any grease And the battery checked once in a while, too. -

The anti-freeze - if you haven't already had it drained, ask Fred about having it saved for next winter cause you wont be able to ~~by~~ buy any next winter. — But I guess you know all this alre ready! -

Got my travel money yesterday - $45.30. - Am sending Fred a money order and will get him to give you the money for the bill I owe the American Oil Co.

Gotta study now - so bye & be good. -

"Happy Mother's Day" or something, Ma.

Love
Frank

P.S. - Please send me either the negative or about 2 copies of the picture of me in my garrison cap. - I'd like to send one to Maj. Ames & Carol. -